

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the step of forming the polymerized layer includes elevating the temperature of the polymeric precursor to a temperature of at least about 320°F.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the polymeric precursor is selected from the group consisting of acrylics, epoxies, urethanes, and combinations thereof.

28. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the metal coating is applied using a physical vapor deposition method.

29. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of removing a portion of the polymerized layer before applying the metal coating.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising cleaning at least the polymerized layer before the step of removing a portion of the polymerized layer.

31. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the metal coating is applied in a pressure range of about  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  millitorr to about  $2 \times 10^{-5}$  millitorr.

32. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the metal coating is applied by evaporation.

33. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising maintaining the polymeric precursor at the temperature for at least about 12 minutes. - -